

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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12

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ADP-00 IO-13 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02

INR-09 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-14

USIA-12 T-03 GAC-01 SAJ-01 RSR-01 /119 W
----- 007032

R 081602 Z MAR 73

FM AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6658

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSYLISBON

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY THEHAGUE

USMISSION NATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L COPENHAGEN 0480

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR; GR

SUBJ: DANES MAY RETURN AMBASSADOR TO GREECE

1. SUMMARY: FONMIN ANDERSEN TOLD PARLIAMENTARY FOREIGN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE MARCH 7 THAT IT WOULD BE " REASONABLE" FOR DENMARK TO SEND

AN AMBASSADOR TO ATHENS AGAIN IN LINE WITH ITS GENERAL POLICY OF MAINTAINING RELATIONS WITH ALL STATES WHETHER OR NOT IT APPROVES OF THEIR GOVTS. (THIS STATEMENT WAS COUPLED WITH ANDERSEN' S ANNOUNCEMENT THAT DANES WERE, IN PRINCIPLE, READY TO RECOGNIZE NORTH KOREA-- SEPTTEL).

END SUMMARY.

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2. DURING A DISCUSSION MARCH 8, MFA DIRECTOR OF POLITICAL AFFAIRS, OLDENBURG, CONFIRMED PRESS REPORTS THAT DENMARK PLANNED TO RETURN AN AMBASSADOR TO GREECE, WHERE THEY HAVE BEEN REPRESENTED BY A CHARGE OR SIX YEARS. HE QUICKLY ADDED THAT NO DECISION HAD BEEN TAKEN AS TO TIMING, AND THAT IT MAY BE SOME MONTHS BEFORE AN AMBASSADOR IS SELECTED AND ARRIVES IN ATHENS. ALSO, HE NOTED, IF THE GREEK GOVT ACTS IN WHAT THE DANES CONSIDER AN ILLIBERAL MANNER, E. G. TOWARD DISSIDENT STUDENTS, DENMARK WOULD HOLD BACK. I ASKED WHETHER IT WAS A FAIR ASSUMPTION THAT THERE WOULD BE AMBASSADORS IN ATHENS AND COPENHAGEN PRIOR TO THE NATO MINISTERIAL MEETING HERE IN JUNE, TO WHICH HE REPLIED THAT THAT WAS "QUITE POSSIBLE", BUT HE AGAIN STRESSED THAT THE TIMING HAD NOT YET BEEN FIXED.

3. COMMENT: GREEK CHARGE MENGLIDES TELLS ME THAT HE HAD HAD SOME "VERY CONCRETE HINTS" OF THIS CHANGE OF POLICY LAST WEEK, BUT HE HAD FOUND THE MFA RELUCTANT TO CONFIRM ANYTHING. ALL OLDENBURG HAD BEEN WILLING TO TELL MENGLIDES WAS THAT THE DANES WERE THINKING OF "GENERALIZING", IN MY VIEW, PROBABLY HAS MORE TO DO WITH NORTH KOREA THAN WITH GREECE, AND THE ANNOUNCEMENT ABOUT RAISING THE LEVEL OF REPRESENTATION IN ATHENS MAY WELL BE A FORM OF SOP TO THE MORE CONSERVATIVE POLITICAL PARTIES WHO HAVE NOT BEEN ENTHUSIASTIC ABOUT RECOGNIZING PYONGYANG
DUNNIGAN

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts:
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 08 MAR 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: martinml
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973COPENH00480
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GDS
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: COPENHAGEN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730323/aaaahibz.tel
Line Count: 96
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: martinml
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 20 JUL 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <20-Jul-2001 by izenbei0>; APPROVED <21-Aug-2001 by worrelsw>; APPROVED <12-Sep-2001 by martinml>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CORRECTED> jms 971113
Subject: DANES MAY RETURN AMBASSADOR TO GREECE
TAGS: PFOR, GR
To: ANKARA
ATHENS
BONN
BRUSSELS
EUR
LISBON
LONDON

LUXEMBOURG
SECSTATE WASHDC

Type: TE

Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005